

TENNESSEE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKER CERTIFICATION AND LICENSURE

DATE: May 5, 2006
TIME: 9:00 a.m., CST
LOCATION: Tennessee Room
Ground Floor, Cordell Hull Building
Nashville, TN

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Susan Vickerstaff, LCSW
Suzanne Vandiver, LCSW
Deborah Wolkhamer, CMSW
Drema Bowers-Mitchell, CMSW
Vickie Fleming, CMSW

BOARD MEMBER

ABSENT: Beverly Esposito, LCSW
Shelia Morris, Consumer Member

STAFF PRESENT: James A. Hill, Board Administrator
Nicole Armstrong, Advisory Attorney
Jerry Kosten, Rules Coordinator
Barbara S. Maxwell, Administrative Director

Ms. Vickerstaff, board chair, called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. A sufficient number of board members were present to constitute a quorum.

Conflict of Interest Policy

Ms. Armstrong discussed the conflict of interest policy with the board and asked the board members to sign the conflict of interest policy and turn them in at the end of the meeting. Ms. Armstrong asked the board to inform her of any potential conflict of interest to determine if there is a conflict of interest at which time the board member(s) must recuse him/herself and leave the meeting room during the matter.

Review February 2, 2006 Minutes

Upon review of the February 2, 2006 minutes, Ms. Vickerstaff made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wolkhamer, to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion carried.

Office of General Counsel Report

Ms. Armstrong stated the criminal background rule become effective May 28, 2006. Ms. Armstrong said Rule 1365-1-.03, .19 and .23 regarding screening panels; advertising and use of titles by licensees are at the Attorney General's Office for review.

Ms. Armstrong stated there are three (3) open cases pertaining to the Board of Social Worker Certification and Licensure in the Office of General Counsel.

Review Applications

Ms. Vickerstaff stated two applicants have been requested to appear before the board due to questions regarding their application.

Upon discussion of the CMSW application of Cary Schroeder, in which Mr. Schroeder indicated a DUI and disorderly conduct charges, Ms. Wolkhamer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Vandiver, to approve Mr. Schroeder for CMSW licensure. The motion carried.

Upon discussion of the CMSW application of Allison Miller, in which Ms. Miller indicated a DUI, Ms. Bowers-Mitchell made a motion, seconded by Ms. Fleming, to approve Ms. Miller for CMSW licensure. The motion carried.

Contested case hearing for Sabrina Lepkofker

Ms. Vickerstaff turned the board meeting over to Judge Anthony Adjent to conduct the hearing. Rainey Irwin represented the State of Tennessee and Dan Warlick represented Sabrina Lepkofker.

Mr. Warlick presented a Motion to Dismiss to Judge Adjent. Judge Adjent said the motion was filed late and motion must be filed ten (10) days prior to the hearing.

Upon conclusion of the discussion, Judge Adjent asked Mr. Warlick to prepare a brief for the August 4, 2006 meeting.

Ms. Irwin asked that the record show that the State objects the brief as the motion applies to torts.

Consent Order for David M. McElroy

David M. McElory – Mr. McElroy has agreed to sign a consent order for his CMSW and LCSW licenses for two years. Mr. McElroy had his license suspended by the Psychology board for a period of not less than two years for inappropriately socializing with patients, committing assault, arriving to his practice under the influence and calling patients informing them he was going to commit suicide.

Ms. Armstrong said the Psychology Board must approve Dr. McElroy's reinstatement upon his completion of the stipulations of the suspension before coming before the social worker board.

Upon discussion Ms. Vandiver made a motion, seconded by Ms. Fleming, to ratify the consent order for Dr. McElroy.

The board members requested the minutes reflect their concerns regarding Dr. McElroy's reinstatement and their concerns in protecting the public. The motion carried.

Contested Case for Martha Blakney

Ms. Irwin informed the board that the case on Ms. Blakney has been postponed until the August 2006 meeting.

Investigative Report

Ms. Armstrong reviewed the investigative report stating there is one (1) complaint year to date and one (1) complaint carried over from 2005 against CMSW's. Ms. Armstrong said the allegation for this year is listed under other.

Ms. Armstrong said there are two (2) complaints year to date and two (2) complaints carried over from 2005 against LCSW's. Ms. Armstrong said the allegations for this year are for care of services and other.

Disciplinary Report

Ms. Armstrong reviewed the disciplinary report which gives the name of the disciplined practitioner, their license number, date of action, expiration date, civil penalty costs, continuing education requirements, reporting, peer assistance and comments.

Ms. Armstrong stated all of the information in the disciplinary report is public information.

Ms. Armstrong said a disciplined practitioner can appeal the case to chancery court and petition the board for a stay until a chancery court ruling is made, which allows the practitioner to continue working until the ruling.

Report from Rules Coordinator – Jerry Kosten

Mr. Kosten said the board had legislation regarding temporary licensure in the Governor's office and he should have a signed copy next week.

Mr. Kosten stated he conducted a rulemaking hearing April 17, 2006 to amend Rule 1365-1-.06 requiring applicants to include a non-refundable application and certification fee each time an application for licensure is submitted; and, amend Rule 1365-1-.19 requiring the board member who chaired a contested case to be the agency member to make the decisions authorized pursuant to Rule 1360-4-1-.18 regarding petitions for reconsiderations and stays in that case.

Ms. Wolkhamer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Fleming, to adopt the rules as presented. A roll call vote was conducted and all board members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

Mr. Kosten said two pieces of legislation passed for all boards. Mr. Kosten said one allows a little extra liability for health care worker providing services in disasters and the other allows boards to issue grants to foundations, universities and associations to conduct research and other things. Mr. Kosten said the board can decide on the front end where the funds are going without having an invitation to bid.

Ms. Vickerstaff said a grant might be used by several boards to conduct a study on health care in rural areas.

Financial Report

Mr. Hill reviewed the financial report stating the board has a cumulative carryover of \$186,075.66. Mr. Hill stated the new report should be ready by the August meeting.

Administrative Report

Mr. Hill reviewed the administrative report stating there are currently 1415 licensed, 2232 retired, 1352 failed to renew, 75 applications in process and 59 deceased CMSW's.

Mr. Hill said there are currently 1791 licensed, 293 retired, 339 failed to renew, 183 applications in process and 43 deceased LCSW's.

Mr. Hill stated the criminal back ground checks become effective June 1, 2006 and the special volunteer licenses become effective July 1, 2006.

Mr. Hill said he sent the board members a draft of the volunteer license application for their review and postcard mailers to all practitioners regarding the volunteer license.

Status Report

Mr. Hill stated the status report gives more detailed information than the administrative report and it includes the practitioners who are in a failure to renew status.

Ratify newly licensed LCSW's

Upon review, Ms. Fleming made a motion, seconded by Ms. Bowers-Mitchell, to ratify the following newly licensed LCSW's:

Charlotte B. Bailey

Catherine A. Burton

Kevin S. Corum

Vernetta Y. Eddleman

Jean M. Egan

David J. Eisenmenger
Eleanor J. Farber
K. Jeff Fladen
Rosalind R. Gann
Susan G. Gibbins
Cynthia W. Greene
John M. Hammer
Elizabeth A. Harcourt
Kristi N. Jones
Kathleen A. Lynd
Lisa R. Lyons
Melissa Meriwether
Lauren G. Munn
Rhonda M. Pemberton
Morgan L. Rogers
Lisa P. Sherfey
Barbara J. Slauter
Pamela K. Willis

The motion carried.

Ratify newly licensed CMSW's

Upon review, Ms. Wolkhamer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Fleming, to ratify the following newly licensed CMSW's:

Cheryl K. Anderson
Heather D. Bautista
Keavian L. Bishop
Beverly Bonner
Haven M. Bowles
James R. Burrwell
Shawn E. Butler
Sandy B. Cannon
Annie Daniel
Amber E. Dillehay
Chris L. Edmonds
Philip G. Enegess
Leslie T. Evans
Dominick Grimaldi
Virginia Hendree
Muriel E. Henry
Kathie A. Hensley-Green
Lisa A. Hite
Ramona L. Huggins
Jocelyn K. Irvine

**Alice H. Johnson
Judy L. Kintz
Paige E. Marcantel
Lori E. McPherson
Pam L. Means
Marisa K. Miller
Cynthia A. Murphy
Stephanie H. Nitti
Cheryl L. Nulty
Susan O'Hara
Julia A. Park
Joyce G. Rankin
Anitra D. Rogers
Dawn N. Sander
Andrea C. Sholar
Kimberly M. Spady
Susan M. Stewart
Lottie M. Stewart-Sawn
Emily M. Streit
Julie K. Taylor
Meryl A. Taylor
William G. Thompson
Richard S. Tierney
Sabrina M. Van Cor
Cynthia C. Wagner
Christine A. Walker
Lakeshia E. Wallace**

The motion carried.

Review/approve LCSW applications by examination and reciprocity

Upon review, Ms. Wollkhamer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Fleming, to ratify the following newly licensed LCSW's by examination and reciprocity:

By examination

**John W. Cummings
Christy Ann Fontenot
Alyson L. Garvey
Jeanne-Marie Gisclair
Jonathan M. Gish
Amanda C. Godin
Kendra Gorentz
Stephanie M. Lord
Jennifer A. Morgan-Lambert**

Mitzi S. McBride
Stephen M. Owens
Katherine Von Bora Prange Mackay
Carolyn D. Price
Janet L. Riddle
Karen B. Roberts
Stacy C. Schambach
Cheryl A. Sinor
Christine M. Wedoski
Connie M. Work

By reciprocity

Gina Bartolucci-Vaughn
Stephanie C. Crider
David A. Dia
Dawn C. Dia
Brenda F. Dixon
Karon Greenwell
David J. McGory
Damien E. Nethery
Katherine C. Sentilles
Tracy L. Baxley Tullos
Matthew G. Watson
Keith A. Wilson
Pamela H. Wilson

The motion carried.

Review/approve CMSW applications

Upon review of the application of **Teresa Franklin**, Ms. Wolkhamer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Vandiver, to deny Ms. Franklin's application as she failed to obtain a social worker degree from an accredited university. The motion carried.

Upon review of the application of **Christopher H. Hargrove**, Ms. Wolkhamer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Fleming, to delay Mr. Hargrove's application and ask Mr. Hargrove attend the next board meeting to discuss his DUI conviction. The motion carried.

Upon review of the application of **Garrett P. Leech**, Ms. Bowers-Mitchell made a motion, seconded by Ms. Vandiver, to ask Mr. Leech to attend the next board meeting to discuss his DUI conviction. The motion carried.

The board called on **Sholanda Lynch** to discuss her three (3) year probation for possession of stolen property. Ms. Lynch stated she and her finance were at the mall and girls they knew asked them to hold their bags which contained items purchased with stolen credit cards.

Upon discussion, Ms. Vandiver made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wolkhamer, to approve Ms. Lynch for licensure as a CMSW. The motion carried.

Upon review of the application of **Sandra Lee Roof**, which contained a letter from her doctor stating her medications do not limit her ability to practice social work, Ms. Vandiver made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wolkhamer, to approve Ms. Roof for licensure as a CMSW. The motion carried.

Upon review of the application of **Ayanna S. Sampson**, which contained information regarding a three year probation for an altercation with another family, Ms. Vickerstaff made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wolkhamer, to approve Ms. Sampson for licensure as a CMSW. The motion carried.

Upon review of the application of **David R. Webb**, in which Mr. Webb accidentally marked substance abuse because he had an occasional drink, Ms. Fleming made a motion, seconded Ms. Bowers-Mitchell, to approve Mr. Webb for licensure as a CMSW. The motion carried.

Review/approve reinstated applications

Upon review of the reinstated applications for LCSW's and CMSW's, Ms. Fleming made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wolkhamer, to approve the following practitioners for reinstatement:

LCSW

Joquetta P. Hutchens

Judy Johnson

Georgia Moody

Barbara Henegar Roy – Ms. Roy's license was placed on probation for two years and she has now met the requirements for reinstatement.

CMSW

Sharon Campbell

Jana Evans

Judy Fowler-ARGO

Helen Iddings

Lisa Mosley

Andy Eldo Osatile

Teri Simon

The motion carried.

Ratify closed files

Upon review of the closed files, Ms. Fleming made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wolkhamer, to approve the closed files for the following applicants:

Beverly L. Gilreath
Jenifer M. Hart
Elizabeth Sigmon Robinson
Betty J. Waters

The motion carried.

Task Force Meeting Report

Ms. Wolkhamer distributed a formal recommendation made by the committee which met December 6, 2005 to explore the possibility of bachelor level social worker certification or registration in Tennessee.

Ms. Wolkhamer said the National Association of Social Worker's (NASW) board will be receiving the report as recommendations in June.

Ms. Franklin said NASW worked on legislation last year regarding title protection for social workers. Ms. Franklin said anyone who calls themselves a social worker must have graduated from an approved program and must be licensed, certified or registered.

Ms. Franklin said if the board moves forward with the bachelor level social worker they will have a lot of opposition from CMSW's.

Ms. Franklin said the study committee did a fee and continuing education projection but not a financial analysis.

Ms. Wolkhamer stated the financial analysis is very important and she is concerned that CMSW's have historically been wiped out because there are very few places where CMSW's can work and acquire their hours.

Ms. Vickerstaff stated that unless you include the scope of practice there will be a great deal of confusion for those agencies who hire social workers.

Ms. Fleming said if you have a bachelor level social worker employees will hire the bachelor level social worker instead of CMSW's because they can hire them at a much lower rate of pay.

Ms. Vickerstaff stated there are some CMSW's that have no intention of becoming a LCSW although most people assume if you obtain your CMSW you are going for the LCSW and that's not true.

Ms. Armstrong said the board needs to determine what type of action they want to take and suggested the board sunshine the discussion for the next meeting.

Ms. Armstrong said this is a lobbyist issue as boards just voice their opinion and do not assist in developing legislation.

Ms. Wolkhamer said the task force is not asking for recommendations or legislation but are informing the board what was discussed.

Ms. Vandiver asked Ms. Armstrong to invite Ms. Bell to the next board meeting to discuss this issue.

Correspondence

The board reviewed a memorandum from the Association of Social Work Boards containing the 2005 pass/fail report for Tennessee.

Mr. Hill asked the board to review the special volunteer license application and said if everything is in order; the board needs to adopt the application.

Ms. Vandiver asked why the board needed the application.

Ms. Armstrong said a law was passed for practitioners wanting to do charity work (work without pay). Ms. Armstrong said the practitioner would not be required to pay the renewal fee or professional privilege tax but must maintain continuing education.

Ms. Armstrong said the practitioner is required to state where they volunteer and the license only allows practitioners to work in a free health clinic without pay.

Upon review of the special volunteer license application, Ms. Wolkhamer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Fleming, to approve the application as written. The motion carried.

With no other business to conduct, Ms. Wolkhamer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Bowers-Mitchell, to adjourn the meeting at 12:06. The motion carried.